



### Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received for  
**Ferns** for the week was **€568.69**  
The amount received for  
**Ballyduff** for month of April was **€453.30**  
The amount received from **Cloogue** for  
March was **€**

*Thank you for your generosity*

### SVP St Aidan's Conference Ferns

Whatever your reason for getting in touch,  
if you need support from the  
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul we are  
here to help you. There are a wide range of  
supports we can offer you, from  
practical help and advice, to a friendly ear  
all in the strictest of confidence.

Web: [www.svp.ie/requesthelp](http://www.svp.ie/requesthelp)

Email: [StAidan.Ferns@svp.ie](mailto:StAidan.Ferns@svp.ie)

Phone: 086 721 9303

### First Penance & First Communion

At present the Bishop's Conference has  
advised that no dates be set for either of  
these sacraments. Parents and children  
are most anxious to know, so that prepara-  
tions may be made, for clothing, foot-  
wear, etc.

Unfortunately, it is outside our control  
and the dates cannot be arranged just yet.  
When we get clarification we will let  
parents and children know through the  
schools network.

The important thing for parents at present  
is to help their children prepare with their  
religion programme which is being fol-  
lowed in school.

We thank parents and teachers for the  
great work being done to prepare the chil-  
dren for these sacraments.

As they have been deprived of attending  
Mass for so long **please** bring them now.

### ST. AIDAN'S PARISH INFORMATION

**Very Rev Paddy Cushen. P.P.** Tel: 053-9366152 / Mobile: 087 2387559.

E-mail: [frpaddycushen@gmail.com](mailto:frpaddycushen@gmail.com) **Eir Code: Y21 N9 W7**

**Rev Ricky O'Connor. C.C.** Tel: 085 7662706

E-mail: [revrickyfern@soutlook.com](mailto:revrickyfern@soutlook.com) **Eircode: Y21 K1 C0**

**Parish Office:** Tel: 053-9366514. E-mail: [fernsparish@gmail.com](mailto:fernsparish@gmail.com) **Eir Code: Y21 X5 W9**

**Weekend Mass Times:** Vigil Mass, Saturday 6.30pm Sunday 8.30am & 11.00am

Weekday Mass Times: Monday to Saturday day 9.30am.

**Convent:** (Wednesday 7.00pm- not at present due to Covid 19) (Now Mon-Fri 9.00a.m.)

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament daily from 8.00a.m. - 10.00p.m.** ([www.fernсадoration.com](http://www.fernсадoration.com))

**Confessions:** Every **Saturday** after 9.30am Mass & First **Thursday** after 9.30am  
Mass and on request.

### ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH, BALLYDUFF

**Weekend Mass Times:** Vigil Mass, Saturday 7.30pm Sunday 9.30am **Eircode: Y21 FD 73**

### ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH, CLOOGUE

**Weekend Mass Time:** Sunday 10.15am

**Eir Code: Y21 CD 96**

**Reconciliation Services:** Lent and Advent. **Baptism:** By appointment.

**Marriage:** At least three months notice must be given.

**Ferns St. Vincent de Paul:** Tel: 086 7219303

**Safeguarding Officers:** Denis Kinsella 087 2465720, Bernidina Roche 086 0786100

Ballyduff: Alan Byrne 086 8135149. Cloogue: Mary Skelton 087 6984703

### St. Aidan's Church, Ferns

Has a live Webcam Streaming for all Masses. The camera is focused on the Al-  
tar & Sanctuary. You can watch Mass & Services live from St. Aidan's Church  
by going to YouTube and searching for Ferns Church or on Facebook at Ferns  
Church Live or on our Parish Website [www.fernsparish.ie](http://www.fernsparish.ie)



# Ferns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 15. No. 37

8th & 9th May 2021

6th Sunday of Easter B

### All you need is love

'Love? Above all things I believe in love. Love is like oxygen. Love is a many-  
splendoured thing. Love lifts us up where we belong. All you need is love.' In an attempt  
to express the depth of his love, the character Christian from the film Moulin Rouge  
pulls together the lyrics of some of the most famous love songs of recent decades. Since  
time began, poetry, prose, and song have attempted to put into words the great mystery  
that is love. 'At the touch of love, everyone becomes a poet,' the philosopher Plato put it.

Today's Gospel offers one of the most eloquent passages on love in the Gospels. It  
reveals the vision of Jesus for his followers and explains how we should treat one another.  
We are to love each other with the same love Jesus showed during his time on earth,  
that great and generous love that culminated in his 'laying down his life for his friends'.  
It is in the way we love one another, the way we understand and forgive and support one  
another, that we experience the life and love of Jesus.

There are more than 20 references to love in today's readings. In the second reading  
we hear that 'everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God'. That love that

God showed by sending his Son for us, is the same generous, wholehearted, self-  
sacrificing love we are called to show others - all others. God does not have favourites.  
'We find it so hard to accept the revelation that it is God's delight to be worshipped in the  
way we touch and look at each other, in the way we listen and talk to each other, in the  
way we forgive and promise to start all over again.' (Daniel O'Leary)

### Church re-opening

Thankfully, our Church doors will be open to the public for daily and  
week end Mass from Monday according to the usual schedule, which is laid out  
on the Parish Information list on the back page of this Newsletter.

The rules which were in place before the lockdown will continue. In the  
outer churches there will be a limit of 50 people with social distancing in place.  
In Ferns Church we will be able to have 50 people in each pod, which will be the  
two sides and centre, so the maximum will be 150 people. The three distinct  
areas will use their own entrances and exits. For the side isles, entrance will be  
from the car park side and exit from the Enniscorthy Road side. The Main En-  
trance will be, entrance for Enniscorthy end and exit from Main St. side. There  
is no movement to be made from one pod to another. Please observe the seat  
and floor markings to help keep everyone safe,

Mass in the Convent Chapel will take place each Wednesday evening at  
7.00p.m. as before the lockdown.

**Face Masks must be worn at all times in Church/Chapel,  
Sanitise your hands on entering and exiting the Church.  
Please take every precaution to keep yourself and others safe.**

**Mass Time & Intentions  
This Weekend**

**8th & 9th May 2021**

**FERNS CHURCH**

**6.30pm:** Elizabeth (Ciss) Ralph, Tombrack  
Aidan & Katie Ann Doyle, Kilbride,  
The Ballagh  
**8.30am:** People of the Parish  
**11.00am:** Peg Davitt & deceased family  
members of The Davitt & Kearney Families,  
Coolbawn  
Bridget Whelan, Clone Road

**Mass Time & Intentions  
Next Weekend**

**15th & 16th May 2021**

**FERNS CHURCH**

**6.30pm:** Lorraine Jordan, Carnew Rd.  
Andrew & Nora Morris and deceased family  
members and Margaret Morris, Pairc Mhuire.  
**8.30am:** People of the Parish  
**11.00am:** James & Elizabeth Byrne,  
Castlelands.

**Convent Chapel**

From Monday the chapel will be open  
for daily Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament and Wed. Mass at 7.00pm

**Sincere Sympathy**

Is extended to Kathleen & P.J. Bolger  
and family on the death of Kathleen's  
father Liam Kirwan, Enniscorthy.  
R.I.P.

Also to Felim & Ruth O'Dowd and  
family Ballyregan, on the death of  
Susanna, R.I.P.

*May the souls of the faithful  
departed rest in peace. May God  
and Our Lady console the bereaved.*

**THE PRIEST ON DUTY**

**Rev. Ricky O'Connor C.C.**  
085 7662706

**Prayers for Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Mighty God, in whom we know the power of redemption, you stand among us in the shadows of our time.

As we move through every sorrow and trial of this life,  
uphold us with knowledge of the final morning when, in the glorious presence of your risen Son,  
we will share in his resurrection, redeemed and restored to the fullness of life and forever freed to be your people.  
Amen.

Living God,  
long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever. Teach us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and our faith as true.  
Amen.

Creator of the universe,  
you made the world in beauty, and restore all things in glory through the victory of Jesus Christ. We pray that, wherever your image is still disfigured by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war and greed, the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear in justice, love, and peace, to the glory of your name.  
Amen.



**Collection now is  
€2,888.13 which is very  
good considering  
lockdown. During the last week we  
received €169.13. If you wish to  
contribute please leave your box in  
the Sacristy, Parish Office or Parochial  
House.**

**The Diocese of Ferns Virtual Pilgrimage to Lourdes  
9th to 13th May 2021**

*The Masses and ceremonies will be on-line and will come from St. Aidan's Cathedral, Enniscorthy. Attendance in person from Mon. when Churches will open to the public. Limited numbers. Join us at [www.churchservices.tv/enniscorthycathedral](http://www.churchservices.tv/enniscorthycathedral).*

*Lourdes: A place of grace, peace and resilience*

**Sunday 9th May @ 10am:** Bishop Brennan will celebrate Mass launching the virtual pilgrimage and light the Lourdes Candle.  
**7pm:** Fr Jim Doyle will guide us through a time of gentle prayer and adoration, recalling our quiet times at the grotto.

**Monday 10th May @ 10am:** Fr Odhrán Furlong will celebrate Mass and short reflection  
**7pm:** Fr Matt Boggan guides us through the mysteries of the Rosary

**Tuesday 11th May @ 10am:** Fr Ricky O'Connor will celebrate Mass and share a short reflection  
**7pm:** Fr Billy Swan will pray us around the Stations of the Cross

**Wednesday 12th May @ 10am:** Msgr Joe McGrath will celebrate Mass and share a short reflection  
**7pm:** Fr Billy Caulfield will lead our evening prayer on God's healing grace

**Thursday 13th May @ 10am:** Fr Brian Broaders celebrates Mass and share a short reflection  
**7pm:** Fr Aodhán Marken will bring the Virtual Pilgrimage to a close with a ceremony of Light

It will be celebrated from Sunday 9th to Thursday 13th May. There will be an evening celebration at 7p.m. and Mass each morning at 10am with a short homily. More information next week.  
Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us. St. Bernadette, pray for us.

**Mary's Meals**

Feeds almost 2 million hungry children every school day in a place of education. An Online Quiz, to support their efforts, takes place on the last Friday of EVERY month at 8pm. To join/donate go to [www.bit.ly/QuizforMM](http://www.bit.ly/QuizforMM) or contact Martin Colfer on 087 2596159.  
Thank you.